



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Marvin A. Leedom
Application No.: 09/804,983 Group: 2643
Filed: March 13, 2001 Examiner: Not Assigned
For: HEARING AID WITH A FLEXIBLE SHELL

RECEIVED
JUN 12 2001
Technology Center 2600

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231	
on <u>06-11-2001</u>	Signature <u>Donna Barroloone</u>
Date	Signature
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate <u>Donna Barroloone</u>	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

06/11/2001 RHARIS1 00000098 09804983

01 FC:102 80.00 OP
02 FC:103 270.00 OP

In the Claims

Please add new Claims 44-58.

44. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 15 wherein the tip further comprises a body portion, the sound port attached to the body portion.
45. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 44 wherein the tip comprises a first durometer material, a second durometer material and a third durometer material, the first durometer material being more compliant than the second durometer material and the third durometer material being less compliant than the second durometer material.
46. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 45 wherein the first durometer material forms the mushroom shaped portion of the tip.
47. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 45 wherein the second durometer material forms the sound port of the tip.
48. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 45 wherein the third durometer material forms the body portion of the tip.
49. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 40 wherein the tip further comprises a body portion, the sound port attached to the body portion.
50. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 49 wherein the tip comprises a first durometer material, a second durometer material and a third durometer material, the first durometer material being more compliant than the second durometer material and the third durometer material being less compliant than the second durometer material.

51. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 49 wherein the first durometer material forms the mushroom shaped portion of the tip.
52. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 49 wherein the second durometer material forms the sound port of the tip.
53. (New) The hearing aid of Claim 49 wherein the third durometer material forms the body portion of the tip.
54. (New) A tip for a hearing aid comprising at least two materials, a first material having a first durometer and a second material having a second durometer, the first durometer of the first material being less than the second durometer of the second material.
55. (New) The tip of Claim 54 wherein the first material comprises a mushroom shaped portion of the tip.
56. (New) The tip of Claim 54 wherein the second material comprises a sound bore of the tip.
57. (New) The tip of Claim 54 further comprising a third material having a third durometer, the third durometer of the third material being greater than the second durometer of the second material.
58. (New) The tip of Claim 57 wherein the third material comprises a body portion of the tip.

REMARKS

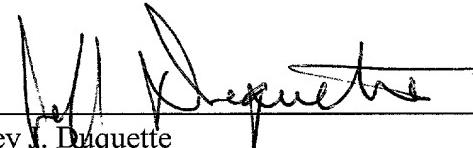
Claims 44-58 have been added to the present application. Support for the claims is located on page 8, lines 10-16. No new matter has been introduced with this amendment.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (781) 861-6240.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By 
Jeffrey J. Duquette
Registration No. 45,487
Telephone (781) 861-6240
Facsimile (781) 861-9540

Lexington, Massachusetts 02421-4799

Dated: *June 6, 2001*